

ITS Technical Bulletin 177

NATURAL 2.2.6 IMPLEMENTATION

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Section/Groups:
Submitted By:
Approved By:

Information Technology Services in planning to implement NATURAL 2.2.6 in the Development, Acceptance Test, and Training environments on March 20, 1994. It is also required that new releases of associated products including NATURAL VSAM, NATURAL Optimizer Compiler, NATURAL Security and Mainframe NATURAL Connection be installed at the same time to ensure product compatibility.

Because the versions we are installing are all considered "maintenance" releases, there is a limited amount of new functionality gained with this implementation. Listed below are changes that are documented that could have an impact on NATURAL applications:

*LINE-COUNT System Variable - A NEWPAGE statement previously caused this variable to be reset to "2". NEWPAGE will now cause this variable to be reset to "1".

NATURAL Under CICS - Normally, when a NATURAL program calls a non-NATURAL program under CICS, the address of the call parameter address list is passed in the CICS COMMAREA. This release provides the capability to pass the parameter values themselves, rather than the address of the address list by issuing the new terminal command %P=C before the CALL.

FOR Statement - Previous to this release, you received error NAT1306 if the FOR statement specified a FROM value that was greater than the TO value. The FOR statement will now be ignored if this is the case (and no error will be issued). This change has been implemented to be compatible with most other programming languages.

ON ERROR - An ON ERROR block can now also be exited with an ESCAPE ROUTINE statement.

Renumber of Source Lines - By default, source code lines are renumbered automatically whenever a SAVE or STOW command is issued. You can now specify "SAVE NOREN" or "STOW NOREN" if renumbering is not desired.

DATA Area Editor - You can now choose whether a SCAN command in the data area editor is to be performed in absolute or non-absolute mode. To switch between the modes, issue the editor command SET ABS ON/OFF. Previously, the SCAN command only worked against the values of the data area editor "Name" column. You can now SCAN the values of the "Comment"

column by entering the new editor command SET SCAN COMMENT. To switch back to the "Name" column, enter the command SET SCAN NAME.

In conjunction with this release, several manuals have been replaced. The Error Message Manual is no longer distributed with the product as it is available on-line. If a hard copy of this manual is desired, contact Database Administration, 538-3511. All other manuals can be obtained through Elaine Oaks, I.T.S., 538-3462. Listed below are the available manuals and their corresponding manual number:

NATURAL Programmer's Guide	NAT-226-020
NATURAL Reference Manual	NAT-226-030
NATURAL Utilities Manual	NAT-226-080

Please report any problems detected in these new releases to the I.T.S. Help Desk, 538-3440, as soon as possible. We are planning to migrate these products into the production environments in approximately 3-4 weeks if no major problems are detected.

Please contact Glenda Hudgens, Database Administration, if you have questions or concerns regarding this implementation.